

said body for removing said body from the implant; said removal head being located external of said body and between said body and said driving head; said removal head having a second gripable radially outward facing outer surface; said first and second gripable outer surface being different in configuration so as to prevent a tool used with said first surface from also accidentally gripping said second surface.

REMARKS:

Please enter and consider the present amendment before first action.

The claims stand rejected on the basis of Gourney alone or in combination with other references. It is noted that each of the independent Claims 1, 5 and 9 require a body, a driving head and a removal head that is external of the body and located between the driving head and body. The removal head also requires radially outward facing surfaces. The Office actions indicate that Fig. 12 of Gourney illustrates the removal head between the body and the driving head. This is urged to be an incorrect interpretation of the Gourney disclosure as the original claims of this called for a removal head to be external of the body. The removal structure of

Gourney is internal relative to the body. Still further, the claims have been amended to include that the removal head has radially outward facing surfaces adapted engage a removal tool. The Gourney device has radially inward facing surfaces for engaging a removal tool and in no way shows or suggests the claimed invention or how to achieve the claimed invention.

Consequently, it is urged that independent Claims 1, 5 and 9, along with the claims that depend from them are allowable over Gourney and the other cited art. It is specifically urged that it is not obvious or readily apparent to externally place the removal head, as claimed, or to include radially outward facing surfaces for engagement by a removal tool.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by phone if prosecution of this application can be expedited thereby.

Respectfully Submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on December 18, 2002.

Roger P. Jackson
(Applicant)

By



December 18, 2002

(Date of Signature)